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OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION

COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES ON A SYSTEM-WIDE BASIS: STRENGTHENING COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM AND THE BRETTON WOODS INSTITUTIONS IN THE AREAS OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AT ALL LEVELS, INCLUDING THE FIELD LEVEL

Note by the Secretariat

SUMMARY

The present note of the Secretariat is intended to facilitate the Council's consideration, at the high-level meeting of the operational activities segment, of strengthening collaboration between the United Nations development system and the Bretton Woods institutions in the area of social and economic development at all levels, including the field level. It may be recalled that the General Assembly, in paragraph 48 of its resolution 50/120, took note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/50, in which the Council decided to place this subject on its agenda.

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INTRODUCTION

1. Relations between the Bretton Woods institutions and other parts of the United Nations system have acquired added significance in the changed global development context.

2. An important trend noted in the previous report of the Secretary-General on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (A/50/202-E/1995/76) is increased cooperation, in particular with the World Bank, in the area of social development, environment and poverty elimination. Cooperation with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has been extended in the area of capacity-building. The importance of closer cooperation is recognized by all Governments, although some developing countries - while encouraging this development - are concerned that it might lead to new conditionalities and make operational activities within the United Nations system subject to the restrictive policies normally attached to loans. On the whole, however, countries favour a relationship that is complementary and mutually beneficial.

3. A broad reform process has been initiated within the United Nations system in the economic and social area. Issues concerning the relations of the Bretton Woods institutions with the rest of the system are an important part of negotiations and discussions in that process, including current negotiations on an agenda for development. The present note does not, therefore, deal with institutional reform issues. Instead, it focuses on the current state of cooperation in a number of specific areas and on practical issues that the Council may wish to discuss as a further contribution to the broader reform process.

I. EVOLVING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM AND THE BRETTON WOODS INSTITUTIONS

4. Relations between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions are governed by certain provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and by separate agreements between the United Nations and each of the two Bretton Woods institutions. Article 1 of the agreements with the Bank and Fund states that by reason of the nature of its international responsibilities and the terms of its articles of agreement the Fund [the Bank] is and is required to function as an independent international organization. The provisions in this article are frequently cited, but note should also be taken of the other substantive provisions of the articles of agreement covering such matters as reciprocal representation, the proposal of agenda items, consultations and recommendations, information exchange, statistical services, administrative relations and liaison.

5. Until recently, the United Nations was distinguished by its broad mandate, universal membership, one-country-one-vote system of governance, the provision of technical assistance in the form of grants, a decentralized operational structure and wide presence in the field. The Bretton Woods institutions were characterized by more focused mandates, membership that was not universal, a

system of weighted voting, resources to be lent derived from market borrowing, concessional funds contributed by member countries based on negotiated shares, and a mainly headquarters-based operations with high quality staff.

6. Both the Bretton Woods institutions and the United Nations now have almost identical membership as a result of the admission of countries of the former USSR and of Eastern Europe, which are now major recipients of aid from Bretton Woods institutions. Moreover, the World Bank in particular has grown both in its size and mandate to an extent that its reach and scope encompass many new areas. Technical assistance, long the mainstay of the United Nations system, is a major and growing part of the Bank's portfolio of activities. Its growth from 1991-1995 may be expressed as follows:

	1991	1995
	(Millions of United States dollars)	
Technical assistance financed through loans	2 047	2 313
Technical assistance financed through the administrative budget	49	83
World Bank as executing agency of the United Nations Development Programme	83	39

II. SUMMARY OF CURRENT COLLABORATION

A. Cooperation between United Nations funds and programmes and the Bretton Woods institutions

7. Cooperation between the Bretton Woods institutions and United Nations funds and programmes have intensified in recent years and now encompasses a broad range of issues. Country-level cooperation between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank has long been established in many countries. World Bank loans have been used for co-financing UNDP-funded projects under the government cost-sharing modality, particularly in the Latin America and the Caribbean region. In countries emerging from conflicts, UNDP-managed resources are being used to facilitate and enable the re-entry of the World Bank in post-conflict situations for rehabilitation and reconstruction. UNDP and the World Bank are strengthening their collaboration in consultative group and round-table meetings. Both the Bank and UNDP recognize that it is the sole prerogative of Governments to choose the actual coordination mechanism. UNDP and IMF are increasing country-level collaboration in both policy and operations, particularly by linking the preparatory processes of the policy framework paper and country strategy note. UNDP has had an executing agency agreement with IMF since 1989, and has provided financing of $21.6 million for technical cooperation projects implemented by IMF. A joint note was issued by the executive heads of the Bank and UNDP on 15 December 1995 to their field representatives, identifying four areas of collaboration:

(a) Human resources development in conjunction with adjustment programmes;

(b) Decentralized governance and community-based development;

(c) Management and coordination of development assistance;

(d) Rehabilitation and reconstruction of countries emerging from conflict.

8. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has engaged in a continuous dialogue with the World Bank on overall development policy issues as well as on sectoral policy reviews. Partly because of UNICEF's advocacy of the interests and rights of children and other vulnerable groups, both the Bank and Fund are now more sensitive to protection of the most vulnerable and more aware that poverty concerns should form an important part of the adjustment policy. The World Bank has joined the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), UNDP, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and UNICEF in developing a common understanding of the 20/20 initiative that was endorsed by the World Summit for Social Development. In future, round table and consultative group meetings will be used as forums for discussing the financing and expansion of basic social services. An understanding has also been reached on collaboration in poverty monitoring and user financing. At the country level, World Bank funds have been used to support UNICEF programmes and UNICEF procurement services have been used for Bank-funded projects for emergency programmes and post-emergency reconstruction.

9. UNFPA and the Bretton Woods institutions have established over the years a system of regular consultations in order to identify opportunities and needs for collaboration at the country level. The most extensive collaboration with the World Bank takes place in the Asia and the Pacific and African regions. Joint projects are being launched, including projects for sector evaluation and programming missions, and reproductive health projects are receiving parallel funding. Greater collaboration should be achieved in other regions based on the outcome of current discussions, particularly of the Inter-Agency Task Force on the Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, which was recently renamed the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) Task Force on Basic Social Services for All. Recently, UNFPA and the World Bank agreed to increase their cooperation at the policy and strategy development level, including a regular exchange of needs assessment and programme development materials and participation in each other's field missions.

B. Cooperation between the specialized agencies and the Bretton Woods institutions

10. Several specialized agencies have undertaken long-standing collaborative activities with the Bretton Woods institutions within the formal framework of a joint memorandum. Field-level cooperation between the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions includes most specialized agencies. Current cooperation arrangements are summarized in the annex table. Information is provided in the table for 11 specialized agencies in a number of specific areas of collaboration with the Bretton Woods institutions in the areas of information

collection and dissemination, research policy and analysis, and country-level cooperation. Moreover, significant system-wide cooperation with the Bretton Woods institutions also occurs in a variety of inter-agency bodies, mostly within the framework of ACC, including the Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development (ACSD); the Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions (CCPOQ); four ACC subcommittees (on statistical activities, demographic estimates and projections, nutrition, and rural development); the three ad hoc task forces established to follow up the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), the Fourth World Conference on Women and the World Summit for Social Development; the Inter-Agency Working Group on the Role of the United Nations system in Post-conflict Situations; and the Inter-Agency Working Group on Evaluation.

11. The Secretary-General of the United Nations has recently requested the views of executive heads on the evolution of relationships with the Bretton Woods institutions and on ways of further enhancing cooperation with them in future. Their replies underscore that while such cooperation is taking place at various levels, significant scope still remains for enhancing and strengthening it. Some executive heads noted that there have been instances in the past when the Bretton Woods institutions initiated and implemented projects falling within the competence of their agencies without adequate consultations or the engagement of their regional and national offices. While welcoming the improvement in recent years, they emphasized the need for greater and more systematic consultations with the Bretton Woods institutions, including access to policy framework papers under the policy instruments.

12. Some of the specific suggestions of the executive heads are:

(a) Establishment of formal agreements between the Bretton Woods institutions and other specialized agencies through memoranda of understanding covering such issues as participation in relevant meetings, information gathering and exchange, research and policy analysis, and operational activities;

(b) Joint meetings between the Bretton Woods institutions and agencies, to be arranged around specific themes;

(c) Establishment of appropriate mechanisms at the national and regional levels so that the Bretton Woods institutions could assist regional offices of smaller agencies;

(d) Establishment of more systematic consultations with the Bretton Woods institutions to set up rosters of experts;

(e) Arrangements for allowing small agencies to have access to World Bank policy framework papers;

(f) Briefing of smaller agencies on World Bank field activities and procedures for access to financing and project execution;

(g) Arrangement for mutual representation at meetings and consultations on proposed programmes;

(h) Conceptual cooperation (exchange of information and documents, and implementation of specific technical assistance projects);

(i) Joint meetings of the Economic and Social Council and the Bank/Fund Development Committee, as recommended at the World Summit for Social Development;

(j) Joint meetings of the heads of IMF, the World Bank, the International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations funds and programmes and other agencies prior to development committee sessions, as also recommended at the Summit;

(k) Enabling agencies to implement projects funded by the World Bank at the country level;

(l) Giving agencies the facility to participate in the identification, preparation and appraisal of Bank loans in their respective fields of competence;

(m) High-level policy dialogue on key issues arising between the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions, and cross-secondments of staff.

13. Further progress was achieved recently and is being transformed into specific cooperation measures. The President of the World Bank convened a meeting with the heads of all United Nations system organizations on 28 November 1995 to discuss ways to strengthen their cooperation with the Bank.

C. Examples of practical cooperation

1. Cooperation in the follow-up to global conferences

14. The United Nations has launched a series of global conferences during the past five years to raise global consciousness, enhance political will and bring together various constituencies involved in the study and application of relevant matters. Notable among them are the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), ICPD, the World Summit for Social Development and the Fourth World Conference on Women. The Bretton Woods institutions have fully participated with the United Nations in the preparations for and follow-up to these conferences.

15. The Bank and Fund are actively involved in the follow-up to the implementation of the results of UNCED and in the mobilization of resources to implement Agenda 21. Both are members of IACSD, which is chaired by the United Nations, and both actively contribute to it. The Bank chairs the IACSD Subcommittee on Water Resources. The Bank, UNDP, UNEP and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) are jointly assisting some 30 developing countries in eliminating ozone-depleting substances, and UNDP and the Bank are planning to jointly pursue forest projects at the country level.

16. The World Bank is also closely associated in the follow-up to ICPD, including mobilizing resources for the implementation of its Programme of Action. The Bank, the United Nations, UNDP, UNICEF, the II . the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and other organizations were all members of the former Inter-Agency Task Force on the Implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action (see para. 9 above), which is chaired by UNFPA. The main focus of this Task Force was to enhance collaboration between institutions at the country level. The Bank is also a participant in the joint programme on the theme "Strengthening national capacities to reduce maternal deaths and disability".

17. The World Summit on Social Development provided another opportunity for close involvement of the Bretton Woods institutions in the preparations for and follow-up to a global conference. The Summit addressed a number of specific recommendations to the technical and sectoral agencies as well as to the Bank and the Fund. It agreed that the United Nations system as a whole should expand and improve its assistance in the field of social development through complementary efforts and, where possible, the combination of resources in joint initiatives for social development built around the common objectives of the Summit.

18. The follow-up to the Summit was among the main topics considered by the 1995 Bank/Fund Development Committee. In pursuance of Summit recommendations, the Bank and Fund are devoting more attention to the composition of public expenditure in their discussions with Governments. The Summit has reinforced and expanded the ongoing Bank work in the area of social development. Social development and human resource development are two of the areas in which cooperation between the Bank and the Fund is expanding.

19. In addition to the recent global conferences, the Bank has also been cooperating in the follow-up to other major global events. In order to strengthen cooperation at the inter-agency level, ACC established in 1995 three ad hoc inter-agency task forces to provide integrated support for country-level action around three interrelated themes: (a) the enabling environment for social and economic development, with the World Bank serving as lead agency; (b) employment and sustainable livelihoods, with the ILO as lead agency; and (c) basic social services for all, with UNFPA as lead agency. All members of ACC are actively participating in these and other ACC activities in the follow-up to major world conferences. The Secretary-General will present a report to the General Assembly later in 1996 outlining progress made towards achieving Summit goals and lessons learned, as well as setting out guidelines for further action.

2. Africa

20. Africa has been the focus of significant joint activity between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions, particularly between the World Bank and the United Nations. Examples are the joint work by the Bank and the World Food Programme (WFP) to support food security in Africa, and the Africa capacity-building initiative that brought together UNDP, the World Bank and the

African Development Bank. A major new initiative to help Africa is the latest initiative of ACC, launched on 15 March 1996 by the Secretary-General, which will support the preparation and financing of important development programmes, primarily in the education and health sectors. The Bank is a member of the Steering Committee of the special initiative, which is co-chaired by the Administrator of UNDP and the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA); IMF participates as an observer. Both the Fund and the Bank are members of the Inter-Agency Task Force on African Economic Recovery and Development.

21. Africa is also the focus of the adjustment programmes of the Fund and Bank, and it is in African countries that the United Nations has been actively involved in launching programmes to supplement structural adjustment or to mitigate and alleviate the spin-off from such policies. Some United Nations bodies have formulated specific programmes at the requests of Governments to offset effects of adjustment and similar reforms.

3. Statistics

22. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions is mandated in the area of statistics by the relationship agreements. IMF chairs the United Nations Common System Task Force. Both IMF and the World Bank are active members of the ACC Subcommittee on Statistical Activities; each has chaired one of the Subcommittee's working groups on subjects within their respective areas of competence. Both organizations are also members of the Common Data System Task Force set up by the United Nations to consider the statistical requirements resulting from the recent sequence of global conferences. In an endeavour of longer standing, both IMF and the World Bank are also key members of the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on National Accounts, which was responsible for the revision of the System of National Accounts and is now overseeing its implementation at the national level. Finally, as indicated above, the World Bank is a long-standing active member of the ACC Subcommittee on Demographic Estimates and Projections.

4. Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research

23. The Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) is cited as a successful example of cooperation between the World Bank and the United Nations and as a model for issue-oriented international collaboration. The three partners are the Bank, which chairs the Group, FAO and UNDP. CGIAR provides financial support for International Agricultural Research in Developing Countries through support to a number of research centres. Its membership includes Governments, private foundations and multilateral development agencies.

5. Research and training in tropical diseases

24. Since the establishment of the UNDP/World Bank/World Health Organization (WHO) Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) in 1975, substantial progress has been made in the development of tools to control

a number of tropical diseases, but other diseases continue to elude control efforts by developing resistance to drugs and insecticides. The most important successes have been achieved against the diseases of Hansen's disease, river blindness, lymphatic filariasis and Chagas disease: the Programme has already helped to make an impact in controlling and interrupting their transmission, and sharp declines in the burden of those diseases are being witnessed. As to schistosomiasis, sleeping sickness and leishmaniasis, significant advances have been made, but the development and application of effective measures to control those diseases have proven to be more difficult. Malaria remains the biggest challenge. In addition to its research and development activities, TDR continues to strengthen the research capacity of institutions in the developing endemic countries, which are becoming more successful in competing for grants for tropical disease research and development.

6. Global Environment Facility

25. In the years since UNCED, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) has evolved from a pilot phase to a permanent mechanism. In restructuring GEF, Governments ensured that it fully embodied the principles that were set out in the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and Agenda 21. Most importantly, GEF was established as a principal mechanism for global environment funding, with a transparent and democratic system of governance open to universal participation and based on collaboration and partnership among its implementing agencies: UNDP, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Bank. GEF was established to provide financing for programmes and projects to achieve global environmental benefits in four focal areas: biodiversity, climate change, international waters and ozone-layer depletion. Land degradation as it relates to these focal areas is also addressed by GEF. In October 1995, GEF approved an operational strategy to guide the development of projects within a framework for programmatic cohesiveness. The operational strategy incorporates the guidance on policies, programme priorities and eligibility approved by the Conference of the Parties to the two conventions for which GEF serves as the interim financial mechanism.

7. Post-conflict peace-building

26. An important new development of the post-cold war era is the emergence of countries facing special situations, including internal conflict. The United Nations has been involved in nation-building and post-conflict peace-building in many countries, such as Angola, Cambodia, El Salvador, Haiti and Mozambique. The Bank and Fund have also been assisting many of these countries through their own programmes, and the need for providing consistent policy advice and programme support is clear. The Bank has been assigned a leadership role in reconstruction efforts in such countries as Bosnia and Herzegovina. The IMF Interim Committee has decided to expand its role in post-conflict situations, inter alia, through increased cooperation with the United Nations. The Fund's Executive Board reviewed the subject and endorsed the concept of early financial support to post-conflict countries. Moreover, the Board emphasized the importance of coordination among the concerned international institutions and

donor countries in delivering technical and financial assistance. The Bretton Woods institutions and the United Nations development system have also been collaborating on assistance to the Palestinian Authority. A complex emergencies mechanism has been set up, chaired by the Administrator of UNDP and the President of the World Bank.

27. It is hoped that through these steps, the involvement of the Bretton Woods institutions in emergency operations can be increased, especially in activities that effectively contribute to the transition from emergency to development. Appropriately planned investments that are necessary for carrying out short-term emergency assistance will work out to be productive pre-investments for reconstruction and rehabilitation. A classic example is the upgrading of physical infrastructure to help emergency operations, which will also contribute to post-emergency development work. Joint action in such mutually beneficial areas will contribute to increasing the efficiency of assistance provided during an emergency for relief, as well as assistance provided after the emergency for rehabilitation.

III. POTENTIAL FOR STRENGTHENED COLLABORATION AT THE COUNTRY LEVEL

A. Country-level cooperation

28. Perhaps the greatest potential and need is to strengthen cooperation at the country level. If there are to be no more World Bank projects or United Nations system programmes but only country projects and national programmes - the stated objectives of the Bank and United Nations - then field-level cooperation should become a central focus of future collaboration under the guidance of the Government concerned. The growing importance of sectoral investment programmes, especially in education and health, will also provide the framework for greater country-level collaboration.

29. The previous report of the Secretary-General on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (A/50/202-E/1995/76; see, in particular, annex, paras. 17-24) contained an analysis of the state and potential of country-level collaboration. Based on data collected from a variety of sources, the report indicated that while there was wide support for greater collaboration at the country level, that should not lead to restrictive policies normally attached to loans. Many countries favoured establishing closer links between the United Nations system's technical cooperation and the Bretton Woods institutions' technical assistance, particularly for free-standing technical assistance unrelated to specific capital investment projects.

30. Country-level collaboration is taking place, in the first instance, in response to the requirements and requests of the recipient country. Increasingly, the broad guidelines established by the General Assembly in such resolutions as 47/199 and 50/120 are leading to the establishment of improved tools of coordination and increased decentralization and delegation of authority. This trend enhances the potential for greater collaboration within the context of the resident coordinator system and on the basis of tools

described further below, such as the country strategy note, the programme approach and strengthened collaboration within programmes and projects.

B. Poverty reduction

31. The Bank has made poverty reduction its main task, and the Fund is devoting considerable attention to it in the framework of its focus on social issues. The United Nations system has long been concerned about the persistence of poverty.

32. Several collaborative mechanisms have been introduced to enable the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions to pool their resources. The Bank, UNICEF and UNDP have set up the Inter-agency Working Group on Poverty Elimination. In September 1995, they held a joint meeting on strengthening their work on poverty measurement and monitoring. In the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, the Bank is working closely with other United Nations agencies in helping countries to design appropriate national strategies for poverty reduction. A micro-fund for poverty elimination has been established in the context of a consultative group on alleviation of poverty under the joint control of two of the Bank's Vice-Presidents. Pledges have been received from the Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and UNDP through the United Nations Capital Development Fund.

33. In several countries, United Nations system entities, such as UNDP, UNICEF, WFP and the World Bank, are formulating joint programmes at the request of Governments. Cooperation is taking different forms, including co-financing and cost-sharing, to combine the limited, but flexible grant resources of the United Nations with more restrictive lending from the World Bank. In some countries, poverty maps are being prepared and activities specific to each locality of a country are being formulated as income-generating projects, with particular focus on women. The mass poverty issue is now at the top of the agenda of all external agencies, including the United Nations system, the Bretton Woods institutions and bilateral institutions, which has already resulted in a joint United Nations and World Bank mission to Liberia.

C. Capacity-building

34. United Nations system activities now encompass a wide range of programmes, from constructing a functioning Government to strengthening civil society, and from emergency relief to long-term sustainable development. Current efforts at capacity-building are undertaken by individual organizations in the context of their respective mandates, focused primarily on their domestic counterparts. A more systematic and sustained process of building and nurturing national human and institutional capacities is required, tailored to each country's strengths and weaknesses, to help integrate the different dimensions of development, including that of economic and social rights, and to design, manage and execute complex programmes and projects. The Bretton Woods institutions, particularly the World Bank, are playing important roles, especially in the areas of strengthening public administration, civil service reform and economic management. UNDP and other United Nations system organizations are also engaged

in related areas. At present, a joint endeavour with the African Capacity Building Foundation, based in Zimbabwe, between the World Bank, the African Development Bank and UNDP is a step in the right direction. Moreover, IMF devotes more than 10 per cent of its administrative budget to technical assistance and training by strengthening and upgrading fiscal, banking, monetary exchange and statistics systems in member countries to underpin the effective formulation and implementation of policies.

D. Human development

35. The Bretton Woods institutions and the United Nations system have emphasized that all development, to be meaningful and enduring, should be people-centred. Thus, the policy and programme focus of UNDP is now sustainable human development. Cooperation between UNDP and the World Bank includes human development. Continued efforts are needed to enhance and integrate this dimension into the entire fabric of development and into all the activities undertaken and supported by the Bretton Woods institutions and the United Nations development system. As part of the collaboration agreement of 15 December 1995 between UNDP and the World Bank (see para. 7 above), increased collaboration in human resources development in conjunction with adjustment programmes has been identified as one of the ways to further country-level cooperation. Further intensification of collaboration in poverty eradication is also a goal of the agreement.

E. Complementing and mitigating the effects of structural adjustment programmes

36. The need for greater sensitivity for social stability in the implementation of the adjustment programmes of the Bretton Woods institutions is now widely accepted, in particular by the Bank and Fund. Both the Bank and the Fund have initiated several "adjustments" to adjustment programmes to mitigate the united effects of their structural and other adjustment programmes on developing countries. The United Nations system is playing an important role in this respect. At the request of Governments, many United Nations system agencies, such as UNICEF and the ILO, are also implementing programmes to offset the social consequences of these programmes. For example, UNICEF has been involved in offsetting the social consequences of structural adjustment programmes through social safety nets and low-cost, community-based delivery mechanisms for basic, social services. There is still considerable room for closer interaction between the Bretton Woods institutions and the United Nations development system so as to complement respective policies and programmes, and where requested, to initiate and launch programmes that mitigate the impact of these programmes. In many countries, the United Nations development system is "informed of" but not "involved in" the preparation, coordination and implementation of structural assistance schemes.

F. United Nations Joint and Co-sponsored Programme on HIV/AIDS

37. The World Bank, UNDP, WHO and UNFPA, among others, are members of the Inter-Agency Group on AIDS, the primary coordinating body of the United Nations system. The World Bank, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, WHO and UNESCO are co-sponsors of the Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. One of the dimensions of the Programme is to mainstream HIV/AIDS considerations into activities at the country, interregional and global levels. The World Bank and WHO collaborated closely in a World Bank-financed regional HIV/AIDS project for South-East Asia and in developing a regional initiative for African countries.

G. Policy dialogue

38. An important element of General Assembly resolution 50/120 on the triennial policy review of operational activities provides a hitherto missing element: the introduction of the dimension of policy dialogue among all the partners in the development process into the context of operational activities. The Assembly stressed, in paragraph 21 of that resolution, that the United Nations system, where requested by interested Governments, support the establishment of forums and mechanisms that facilitate and guide policy dialogue among the partners in the development process, primarily in order to ensure that their programmes are integrated with national plans and strategies. Through this mechanism, the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, could play a role in supporting countries in its role of coordinating all external assistance, at their request, facilitating a policy dialogue at the national level, including bilateral donors. Such involvement of the Bretton Woods institutions is essential and critical. Each country should decide on the appropriate forum and mechanism suitable to its own context, taking into account existing mechanisms.

H. The country strategy note and policy framework papers processes

39. The recent introduction of the country strategy note as a major modality to ensure a coordinated response from the United Nations system to national priorities offers another device. The policy framework papers of the World Bank and IMF have long been major policy instruments, particularly in those countries that are undergoing adjustment programmes. The extent to which Bank and Fund representatives in the field can be involved in the preparation of country strategy notes will depend on the preferences of the Government concerned. IMF has recently informed the Consultative Committee on Programme and Operational Questions (CCPOQ) on the steps being taken to facilitate such interaction. Accordingly, its representatives could be involved in the country strategy note process through the provision of information and Fund documents and also by participating in the preparatory process with the consent of the Government concerned. In countries in which the Fund does not have a representative, Fund missions to the country could play that role. Fund staff are expected to discuss with the recipient Government the possible advantages of allowing the obligation to be taken into account in the country strategy note process. For countries in need of intensive and well-coordinated donor support, such as

post-conflict countries, the Fund could contribute fully to the coordination of the process, particularly in preparations for round tables or consultative group meetings. In cases in which the Government desires to use the policy framework papers as a framework for country strategy notes, they might explicitly incorporate some united Nations system initiatives. Those instructions constitute an important advance in strengthening collaboration between the Bretton Woods institutions and the United Nations system at the country level. Since the preparation is wholly voluntary and government-driven, other avenues and alternatives should be explored in those countries which choose not to prepare a country strategy note.

I. The resident coordinator system

40. Closer cooperation at the country level can be furthered through the resident coordinator system. The resident coordinator system, led by the resident coordinator, who is normally the resident representative of UNDP, comprises all the representatives of united Nations funds and programmes and specialized agencies, and is the main united Nations system mechanism for ensuring policy coherence and programme cooperation at the country level. The participation of representatives of the Bank and Fund in the activities of this system has been uneven, and varies from country to country. In some countries, cooperation is more extensive than in others. It should now be moved from the arena of ad hoc individual initiatives to systematic collaboration. The strengthening of the participation of the Bretton Woods institutions in the resident coordinator system should be achieved with the support and agreement of Governments.

J. Aid coordination

41. The current development situation is marked by the presence of an array of actors, namely, the United Nations system, the Bretton Woods institutions, bilateral donors, publicly funded non-governmental organizations and others. All external development partners have one common focus: to support national development and fill in the gaps identified by the Government in the spectrum of development. While aid coordination is primarily the responsibility of a country, there is significant scope for greater coordination and orchestration of external aid as an input into national effort. The World Bank has been an important player in this regard in many countries, particularly through the mechanisms of consultative groups and also by bringing together all interested partners around specific issues. The UNDP round-table mechanism also serves a useful purpose. None the less, many countries are finding it difficult to deal with so many external agencies, each with a different approach and different conditionalities and conditions, lacking - as many do - the required sophistication and structured efficiency. It will be useful to take stock of current mechanisms, undertake selected case studies, and identify the policies and mechanisms that could help countries, at their request, in their efforts to establish coordinated integration of all external resources.

K. Country missions

42. Fielding country missions has become an important means through which the headquarters of United Nations system entities, including Bank and Fund programmes, monitor and evaluate their country-level activities. Such missions supplement the country-level presence and are particularly important for those entities that either have no representation or are not sufficiently specialized. An expanding area of collaboration is cooperation between such missions by way of advance notice, information exchange and visits to each other's field offices. The resident coordinator system could also be used as a forum, and the tradition of collectively briefing the resident coordinator system on important missions is also a useful practice.

L. Connectivity at country level

43. Connectivity should become integral to coherence and collaboration within the entire United Nation system, in particular between the Bretton Woods institutions and the United Nations development system. All United Nations system field offices should be electronically linked to enable each organization to obtain ready access to the databases and programmes of other organizations. The participation of the Bretton Woods institutions could greatly facilitate the effectiveness of this modality and ensure greater complementarity in the activities of the United Nations system.

M. The programme approach

44. Considerable scope for cooperation also exists at the programme level, given the increasingly common agendas of the united Nations development system and the Bretton Woods institutions, namely poverty elimination, environmental protection and the protection of vulnerable groups, such as women and children. Such cooperation can take the form of either United Nations grant resources being combined with credits or loans from the World Bank as part of co-financing, or all technical assistance for a given programme being grouped under a single national management. The programme approach, a modality increasingly utilized by the entire United Nations system since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 44/211 of December 1989, provides the framework and structure for facilitating issue-based cooperation between the Bretton Woods institutions and the United Nations system at the country level. Under this arrangement, each country formulates national programmes around specific subjects, identifies the gaps and needs to be filled by external actors, and assigns different roles based on a rational division of labour. These programmes are led and managed by Governments and, where needed, the United Nations system is expected to assist in their formulation and implementation. The programme approach offers important avenues and promise through which closer programme cooperation between the Bretton Woods institutions and the rest of the United Nations system could be strengthened, and needs to be more fully explored. Governments should be encouraged to use the programme approach as a way of integrating capital, technical and other sources of external assistance.

IV. CONCLUDING REMARKS

45. The record of cooperation between the Bretton Woods institutions and the United Nations system is extensive, involving several major joint initiatives. This should be kept in view in fostering further cooperation. Past efforts should serve as the foundation and point of departure for future action. Much of the cooperation has been ad hoc, revolving around issues considered important by the Bank and Fund in large measure.

46. Greater collaboration around agreed themes should be pursued. The Bank, the Fund and the United Nations system have already forged close links around specific themes, such as environment, social development, population and reproductive health, and HIV/AIDS. What is needed is to transform the ad hoc and selective approach into a more structured provision of support, at the request of Governments, based on mutual comparative advantages and expanded into new areas. Eradicating mass poverty, stimulating economic growth and capacity-building, and trade efficiency and promoting employment are some of the areas for strengthened future cooperation. Such cooperation should be sustained and should include all stages from policy formulation to project monitoring and evaluation.

47. Currently, the need and potential for cementing the links between the Bretton Woods institutions and the United Nations system is greatest at the programme and project level in countries. Interfacing between the country strategy note, where it exists, and the policy framework papers, policy dialogue among all development partners, programme approach, and the resident coordinator system provide a menu of options for achieving effective collaboration in areas selected by Governments.

Annex table. Existing arrangements for cooperation between the United Nations development system and the Bretton Woods institutions a/

United Nations body	Information/data collection and dissemination	Research policy and analysis	Country-level operational activities	Proposals for strengthened cooperation
		Departments of the United Nations Secretariat		
Department for Development Support and Management Services	World Bank participated in technical committee for the preparation of resumed 50th session of General Assembly on public administration and finance; World Bank participated in several DDSMS organized seminars and expert groups, e.g., conference on privatization (Stockholm 1994); conference on public administration and social development (Stockholm, October 1995); in Africa, DDSMS and World Bank co-sponsored meeting on civil service reform in francophone Africa (Abidjan, January 1996).		Several joint missions have been completed, e.g., in Viet Nam and Belarus, energy sector reviews; in the Islamic Republic of Iran, energy end-use strategy for Government.	Proposed cooperation in preparing public management profiles in developing countries for the 1996/1997 biennium. Need for greater collaboration with World Bank in areas of natural resources, e.g., policy formulation, enabling legislation, institutional development, technical/physical frameworks, diagnostic sectoral and cross-sectoral assessments (water resources development and related activities).
Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis	World Bank, as of February 1995, has agreed to use DESIPA-prepared population estimates and projections in its work; World Bank provides profiles of specific country demographic situation and information on socio-economic impacts of HIV/AIDS, which serve as important inputs for preparation of estimates and projections by DESIPA. Inter-secretariat Working Group on National Accounts (United Nations, EU, IMF, OECD, World Bank) adopted in 1993 comprehensive new DESIPA collaborating with IMF on statistics on total imports and exports from countries. Bank and Fund are members of DESIPA's Common Data System Task Force.	Cooperating with the World Bank in database on population, resources, environment and development, and social indicators for development as well as in the area of city and urban planning.		
Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development		Follow-up to United Nations-NADAF; BWI participate in United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on African Economic Recovery and Development; BWI working closely with the Commission on Sustainable Development and follow-up to UNCED; BWI are members of Inter-Agency Committee on Sustainable Development; ACC inter-agency task forces on integrated conference follow-up.		Greater cooperation between United Nations and BWI in ensuring continuity between emergency assistance and rehabilitation; cooperation of United Nations and BWI in macroeconomic policy coordination; better use of CCPOQ of ACC and JCGP for enhancing field-level cooperation. Reporting to intergovernmental bodies in relation to assessment of the world economic situation.

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United Nations body	Information/data collection and dissemination	Research policy and analysis	Country-level operational activities	Proposals for strengthened cooperation
Department of Public Information	Collaboration of United Nations/BWI on individual United Nations conference information strategies. Libraries of United Nations system cooperate through membership in the Information Systems Coordinating Committee task force on inter-library cooperation strategies and management. Libraries receive information on United Nations/BWI documents and publications and exchange access to each other's on-line distribution. BWI consulted on its work in production of TV, radio and print material. Agreement in place to co-produce and promote the DPI newspaper Development Business, which is used by developing countries to procure goods and services for United Nations and World Bank-financed projects.		At working level, DPI maintains 68 information centres, 30 of which are under resident coordinators, who coordinate at country level information of United Nations system and BWI; UNICs can promote work of BWI if material provided.	Publicizing 1996 as International Year for Eradication of Poverty could benefit from BWI cooperation, as would follow-up public relations to United Nations conferences; useful to have greater collaboration with BWI on country-level proposals for projects related to building country-level information infrastructures and application of information technologies; should be greater collaboration in utilization of electronic dissemination techniques, e.g., the Internet.
Office for Project Services			Provides management and support services to facilitate successful implementation of development programmes. Performs this function on behalf of UNDP in 23 countries for programmes funded by the World Bank/IDA.	Strengthening government capacity to manage and implement World Bank loans. Management Services Agreement important as implementation vehicle at country level for Bank-funded activities, including in crisis situations. Intensified collaboration within the framework of a consolidated appeal and through a coherent rehabilitation programme.
		Regional commissions		
ECA	Policy dialogue with BWI through long-term perspective studies and the social dimensions of adjustment as well as in the Special Programme of Action Group on Poverty Reduction; Cooperation on statistics (IMF:IFS, BOP and DOT; and World Bank STARS); collaborates and participates in seminars and workshops; cooperation with MIGA (mining investment); ECA and EDI seminars on public sector reforms, energy policy and environment power sector reform; World Bank conference on civil service reform in anglophone Africa.	Second United Nations Transport and Development Decade; World Bank convenes Coordinating Committee on African Statistical Development Subcommittee on Organization and Management of National Statistical Systems		Need to improve projects, e.g., World Bank Sub-Saharan Africa Transport Programme; Bank should involve ECA in Consultative Group meetings; financing of regional institutions and projects; need for coordinated arrangement for data collection and agreement on unified methodology on data.

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United Nations body	Information/data collection and dissemination	Research policy and analysis	Country-level operational activities	Proposals for strengthened cooperation
ECE	Inclusion of the statistical work programmes, for the ECE region, of both IMF and the World Bank in the joint presentation of programmes, which is discussed each year by the Conference of European Statisticians (CES), one of the ECE principal subsidiary bodies. Participation of the IMF Statistics Director in the Bureau of the CES. ECE Statistics Director is a member of a joint Steering Group, serviced by IMF, which coordinates technical assistance in statistics to CIS countries. Sharing of statistical data on countries in transition with the BWI.	Collaboration with BWI on the analysis of economic reforms in countries in transition. Mutual participation in seminars organized in the fields of transport, energy, environment and economics, and trade and investment promotion in countries in transition.	Cooperation with UNDP and the World Bank, within the framework of GEF, for preparing projects for the development of energy efficiency demonstration zones, in particular in the Russian Federation. Cooperation with the World Bank within the framework of the Environment for Europe process. Cooperation of ECE regional advisers with the World Bank for assistance to countries in transition.	Need to cooperate in transport matters in Central and Eastern Europe: organize informative meetings for Governments; exchange data and documentation; collaborate in the development of road and rail transport infrastructure.
ECLAC	Strong working relations with IMF Statistics Division and relevant units of the World Bank; jointly with the IMF, ECLAC organized seminar on balance-of-payments statistics, November 1994. In November 1995, ECLAC and Venezuela organized, in close collaboration with IMF, a seminar on new United Nations System of National Accounts; ECLAC has carried out several joint ventures with the World Bank related to the application and processing of household surveys in different countries of the region. In December 1995.	Cooperation on project of fiscal policy, stabilization and adjustment; collaboration with the World Bank on subregional conference on best practices and policy lessons in fiscal decentralization (October 1995). Similar conference planned for 1996. Collaboration with the World Bank in the field of transport.	Collaboration at country level is limited to two activities: (a) those with the World Bank related to the application and processing of household surveys in different countries of the region; and (b) the provision of transport experts to participate in various Bank missions to countries of the region.	Joint research with IMF on the effect of opening regional economies; collaboration with the World Bank in the area of industrialization. The regional commissions could provide a basis for strengthened collaboration.
ESCAP	Maintains cooperative relationship with IMF, World Bank on statistical matters. Steering Committee on Coordination of Technical Assistance to Countries of the former Soviet Union: collaboration between IMF and ESCAP. Cooperates with the World Bank in areas of national accounts, the measurement of poverty, and purchasing power parity comparisons.	Collaboration with World Bank on seminars, such as the Seminar on East/South-East Asian Growth Experience (Bangkok, 19 and 20 May 1994); cooperation under regional umbrella projects financed by UNDP or World Bank, e.g. strengthening conservation and management of critical ecosystems, urban management programme for Asia and the Pacific.	ESCAP as regional body does not usually engage in direct country-level activities except through its advisory services programme. Bank has occasionally turned to ESCAP to execute World Bank projects in a few specific technical areas, e.g. UNDP-funded Bank project in 1994/95 on rehabilitation of the power and water sectors of Cambodia.	Recognition of complementary roles of regional commissions and BWI country-level focus could promote development of more fruitful cooperation in a wide range of areas. Need to develop physical and economic infrastructure of regional scope, which is a local extension of Bank activities at country level. Involvement of ESCAP in EDI-organized seminars on Uruguay round agreements.
ESCWA				Economic policy coordination, particularly in a regional context, needs proper forum for discussion and exchange of views. SDRs as an integrating link between the United Nations and BWI.

United Nations body	Information/data collection and dissemination	Research policy and analysis	Country-level operational activities	Proposals for strengthened cooperation
		United Nations entities, funds and programmes		
UNCTAD	UNCTAD participates in meetings of Interim and Development Committee as well as in annual meetings of World Bank and IMF, as observers. Close cooperation with BWI with respect to debtor countries in Paris Club debt negotiations.	Provides technical support to the Group of 24 to assist developing countries' preparedness and ability to participate in all phases of discussion and negotiations within the framework of BWI. Research papers prepared on issues under discussion in support of Group of 24, published in 11 volumes. Current research concerns implications of the integration of developing countries into the international financial system, including effects of the macroeconomic policies of the major industrial countries. World Bank collaborated closely with UNCTAD Ad hoc Working Group on Investment and Financial Flows.	Several technical cooperation initiatives involve BWI: (a) Debt Management and Financial Analysis System, joint programme with World Bank for country installations financed by WB trust funds and WB borrowers; (b) Advance Cargo Tracking System, several borrowers using World Bank loan/IDA credits to install system; (c) ASYCUDA: World Bank borrowers using loans/IDA credits for customs reform and computerization using UNCTAD system; also cooperating closely with IMF in customs. Trade Point Programme and Trade Control Measures Information System of interest to World Bank. UNCTAD also participated, on an ad hoc basis, in a few consultative group meetings organized by the Bretton Woods institutions (in Bangladesh, Madagascar and Guinea-Bissau).	Should be informed on a regular basis of each organization's latest research projects, and there should be more consultations in the field of international finance.
UNICEF	United Nations Joint and Co-sponsored Programme on HIV/AIDS. Executive Director, as well as policy, geographical and technical staff meet regularly with Bank staff at headquarters level.	UNDP/UNICEF/World Bank Working Group on Poverty Monitoring; UNDP/UNICEF/World Bank task forces on poverty elimination, water, education and health.	UNICEF programmes/projects suggested by Governments using Bank funds in areas of health, nutrition, education, water and sanitation; joint missions, consultations, programme development at field level; debt conversions; participation in consultative groups and round tables.	Cost recovery policies, needs versus entitlements, structural adjustment, conditionally 20/20 Programme technical assistance.
UNDP	United Nations inter-agency collaboration on follow-up to United Nations conferences; ACC Africa initiative; United Nations Joint and Co-sponsored Programme on HIV/AIDS; Task Force on Aid Coordination.	UNDP/UNICEF/World Bank Task Force on Poverty Elimination; poverty assessments and strategies; governance; water resources management; energy; sustainable management of forests; CGIAR; GEF; CGAP microfund for poverty elimination.	UNDP assistance to IBRD loans; task force on United Nations/World Bank collaboration in countries emerging from conflict/complex emergencies; task force on country-level collaboration; consultative groups and round tables.	Structural adjustment policies; free-standing technical assistance; World Bank decentralization.

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United Nations body	Information/data collection and dissemination	Research policy and analysis	Country-level operational activities	Proposals for strengthened cooperation
UNEP	Cooperation in establishing sustainable development indicators; the Global Environment Monitoring System on Air; and development of a consortium of major global reports/assessment producers in the use of common database and analytical methodologies; in the field of environmental law and others, UNEP and the World Bank regularly exchange information on technical assistance requests and reports; and participate in each other's meetings.	Workshop organized jointly with the World Bank on environmental impact of structural adjustment programmes (New York, March 1995); IMF also participated. World Bank is a member of the Environmental Impact Assessment Working Group established by UNEP to oversee the preparation of the Training Resource Manual and Good Practice Document; World Bank is a member of the Steering Committee for UNDP/IUCN/UNEP.	In a number of countries, UNEP and World Bank have jointly assisted in the formulation of national environmental action plans.	Revision of the Declaration of Environmental Policies and Procedures relating to Economic Development and Future Orientation of Work of the Committee of International Development Institutions on the Environment (CIDIE).
UNFPA	Executive Director meets regularly with President of the World Bank; regular consultative meetings between UNFPA geographical divisions and World Bank counterparts take place; joint UNFPA/World Bank missions have taken place in several countries; UNFPA is executing agency for World Bank projects.	Global initiative on Contraceptive Requirements and Logistics Management Needs in Developing Countries. UNDP/UNFPA/WHO/World Bank Special Programme of Research, Development and Training in Human Reproduction; Joint IATG on Implementation of the ICPD.	See paragraph 16 of this note.	Better and institutionalized system for exchange of information and data; more extensive cooperation and effective use of comparative advantage in the implementation of reproductive health and family planning programmes.
UNDCP	UNDCP has contributed input to World Development Report 1996, at the invitation of the World Bank.	Informal cooperation research into the social and economic implications of illicit cultivation, manufacture, trafficking and abuse of drugs. UNDP/World Bank/UNDCP cooperated on research relating to Latin America.		Arrangements for exchange of information and data between UNDCP and BWI have yet to materialize, leading to duplication of efforts at field level in relation to technical cooperation activities.

United Nations body	Information/data collection and dissemination	Research policy and analysis	Country-level operational activities	Proposals for strengthened cooperation
WFP		Seminar on food aid in Africa in the 1990s, organized jointly with the World Bank and held at the African Development Bank; joint paper elaborated by WFP/World Bank on the same subject.	WFP has received substantial grants from the World Bank for rehabilitation of African transport infrastructure during the emergency operations at the time of the drought in 1985, and for logistics in Somalia in 1992-1993. New joint co-financed projects have been elaborated: targeted poverty projects in Egypt, Madagascar and Senegal and post-war rehabilitation activities in Mozambique; preparation of new country strategy outlines and programmes of country activity is based on close interaction with local BW officials and World Bank poverty assessment and food security sectoral work.	Cooperation on poverty issues. Follow-up to the Conference on Hunger and Poverty. Collaboration in emergencies and especially in reconstruction.
Habitat	Indicators Programme - joint Habitat/World Bank Programme established to develop tools to measure shelter performance in accordance with the global strategy for shelter to the year 2000; Programme objectives are (a) to identify set of key housing and urban indicators; (b) collection of these indicators in all countries on regular basis; (c) assisting countries in preparation of country reports for Habitat II; (d) assisting in national/regional efforts to develop and utilize indicators as management tools for training programmes.	Habitat II preparations; World Bank lead role in "The City Summit" (Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996); Bank contributed to Habitat II preparations.	The Urban Management Programme is the largest global multi-agency technical support programme devoted to urban development. Next phase to be launched at "The City Summit" by UNCHS, UNDP and World Bank.	Greater collaboration between United Nations/World Bank on revitalization, operation and maintenance of urban infrastructure services. More systematic collaborative programming in the preparation and implementation of investment projects.

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United Nations body	Information/data collection and dissemination	Research policy and analysis	Country-level operational activities	Proposals for strengthened cooperation
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)			In Pakistan, UNHCR and the Bank have cooperated successfully in 3 consecutive income-generating projects from 1984 to 1995, for a total of US$ 86 million, for Afghan refugees and local communities. The Bank helped UNHCR raise donor grants, and then monitored and supervised the projects. In connection with the recent Rwanda emergency, UNHCR obtained a USD 4 m. Grant from the World Bank.	From the outset of the post-conflict phase, it would be bilaterally beneficial if the BWIs were already fully briefed, and ready to implement initial development projects. Given the financial difficulties of countries in the post-conflict phase, it would be beneficial to have a review of the IDA credit system. Many countries in which UNHCR operates are subject to conditions of poverty and instability that impede access to grant funding from the World Bank.
UNU		Bank participated in projects on global change and modelling, food and nutrition, bio-geophysical sustainability, export performance, economic recovery and development of the third world in the 1990s, with special reference to Africa; patterns and trends in technology licensing and foreign direct Investment Empirical Studies of their Determinants.		Collaboration on post-graduate training and joint training efforts of developing country academics and practitioners.
ITC	ITC participates in various World Bank consultative group meetings and chiefs and desk officers of ITC's headquarter-based regional officers, as well as technical officers meet regularly with World Bank representatives at the country level.		A number of projects implemented and under consideration by Governments using World Bank funds, in particular in the area of international public procurement.	

United Nations body	Information/data collection and dissemination	Research policy and analysis	Country-level operational activities	Proposals for strengthened cooperation
		Specialized agencies and related organizations		
ILO	World Bank and International Training Centre of ILO, Turin, Italy cooperate with procurement training and other courses. Plans to develop a United Nations staff college will involve coordination with Bank training. Tri-partite Dialogue on Labour Policy: through international and regional seminars. Dialogue with International Trade Union Confederations: Regional workshops on adjustment/transition for trade union leaders. Joint Bank/IMF/ILO sponsorship. IATF on Indigenous Peoples (International Year and Decade). IMF: IMF Interim Committee has agreed that cooperation between the Fund and ILO should be strengthened with a view to helping Fund missions to acquire better understanding of labour markets and social protection issues, and ILO staff to further integrate in their own policy advice the view of the Fund on macroeconomic policies and targets for countries concerned. IMF will participate in ILO's employment policy reviews and in its national tripartite seminars on employment situations and policies in selected countries. IMF will organize together with ILO office meetings with employers and workers groups with a view to improving their understanding of policies advocated by the Fund.	World Bank: Joint policy study, including country case studies and synthetic volume. Export processing zones, labour market and gender. IMF: IMF will participate in selected joint ILO/Fund case studies on labour market and social policy issues.	World Bank: ILO execution of project components: Turkey, Romania. Labour force survey: Belarus. Joint assessment of old age security system in Zambia in preparation of Bank-funded structural adjustment operations.	World Bank: Joint meetings of ECOSOC and the Development Committee. Joint meetings of the heads of IMF, the World Bank, ILO, the United Nations funds and programmes and other relevant agencies, prior to Development Committee session as recommended by the World Summit for Social Development.
FAO	Co-sponsor CGIAR; Irrigation and Global Water Partnership; Preparation of World Food Summit Fertilizer Working Group; Bank has chaired the Working Group for nearly 20 years. It also addresses food security issues.	Co-sponsor CGIAR; Irrigation and Global Water Partnership; Preparation of a technical paper for the World Food Summit on investment in agriculture; Fertilizer Working Group. Bank has chaired the Group for nearly 20 years. The FWG also addresses food security issues.	Cooperative programme ($10 m./yr.) support to FAO unit. Facility: Pest Management; Food Security in Africa; IFDC, ICIPE, IBSRAM: Bank gives budget support. Pakistan: FAO is co-financing a canal project involving irrigation privatization. Exceptional grant for emergency in Rwanda ($4.5 m. 1994).	Further expansion of joint activities on specific subject studies, in particular, of an upstream nature.

United Nations body	Information/data collection and dissemination	Research policy and analysis	Country-level operational activities	Proposals for strengthened cooperation
UNESCO	International Programme for the Improvement of Educational outcomes. The Bank would fund 15 per cent of the costs of the Poverty and Social Policy Department and technical departments.		Cooperation in restoration of 6 historic cities, Kazakstan (education) and Kyrgyz Republic (democratization and mass media).	Arrangements for mutual representation at meetings, consultations on proposal programmes; sharing of a coordinated data collection and exchange.
ICAO				A mechanism should be established to deal in a pragmatic way with policy and priority issues, as well as with procedural questions related to the identification, elaboration, approval, funding, implementation and evaluation of technical cooperation projects.
WHO	Since the collaborative effort to produce the 1993 World Development Report, on the theme "Investing in health", exchange of communications and collaborative work continue in the area of health economic aspect of data collection and provision of information concerning the linkages between health situation and economic impact, especially in the area of disease burden. Technical reports are being published by WHO with the participation of the World Bank.	HDD administers special grants (total about $20 million per year). Research and training in tropical diseases; onchoceriasis I and II (riverblindness); R&D in human reproduction; global programme on AIDS; global micronutrient initiative; control of acute respiratory infection; safe motherhood initiative; regional HIV/AIDS facility of South-East Asia; Sahel Regional Advocacy and Capacity Building Programme; International Health Policy Programme; TB Programme; early childhood care and development; and population NGOs. Social challenges in transition exercise: health in transition reports. Developed guidelines for solid waste disposal (trials in Guatemala and Colombia). Cost-effective ways to deal with health impact of air pollution (China). Vehicle air pollution. Water pollution. Bank prepared paper on sanitary landfills. Infectious and endemic disease control project: TB and schistosomiasis. Comprehensive maternal and child health project.	WHO works with the World Bank to support countries' health development in accordance with WHO/World Bank partnership framework; WHO representatives, with the support of WHO regional offices and headquarters, provide technical guidance in a number of World Bank-financed health projects. WHO sometimes plays the role of an executing agency for World Bank-financed projects, such as the Bangladesh Health and Population Project. Continuous involvement of WHO country offices in all stages of World Bank-financed projects, including planning and evaluation. Such WHO/World Bank collaboration is expanding in a number of developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.	Further strengthening of the WHO/World Bank partnership in all new World Bank financing projects in developing countries. Particular emphasis should be placed in the future on collaboration in the area of health sector reform and strengthening collaboration in environment, water supply and sanitation in urban and rural development, as well as post-conflict rehabilitation and development.

United Nations body	Information/data collection and dissemination	Research policy and analysis	Country-level operational activities	Proposals for strengthened cooperation
UPU		UPU is cooperating in a joint study entitled "Postal sector reform study"; the case studies on 9 administrations have been completed. The overall sector study will contain sections on key global postal statistics, postal regulatory policy developments, postal enterprise reform and recent technological advances affecting the postal sector.		
ITU	General consultations on telecommunications issues. BDT Telecommunications Development Advisory Board, ITU Annual Regulatory Colloquium.			
WMO	Implementation of technical assistance projects are carried out through memoranda of understanding.		Mexico water project through a World Bank loan to the Mexican Government. WMO has initiated discussions with the Bank on the possibility of developing programmes in the area of environment. WMO/World Bank project in support of the hydrological services of Mediterranean countries, at a cost of about $14 million.	Establishment of formal agreement between BWI and specialized agencies; joint meetings, particularly on specific themes, between BWI and United Nations agencies to review possible areas and mechanisms of collaboration; establishment of appropriate mechanisms so that BWI at national and regional levels can assist regional offices of smaller agencies in formulating and implementing relevant projects.
IMO			Partnership with the World Bank entered new stage through participation in GEF projects. Assisting GEF to set up a roster of experts on environmental matters.	Establishment of more systematic consultations with BWI to set up rosters of experts; arrangements to allow small agencies to have access to the policy framework papers used by the World Bank. Briefing of smaller agencies on World Bank field activities and procedures for access to financing and project execution.

United Nations body	Information/data collection and dissemination	Research policy and analysis	Country-level operational activities	Proposals for strengthened cooperation
UNIDO	Inputs provided into several World Bank publications, including African Development Indicators and World Development Report (primarily on industrial ministries).	Cooperation in preparing Bank's Industrial Pollution Prevention and Abatement Handbook (sector-specific technical background documents prepared by UNIDO). UNIDO staff contributing as lecturers to Bank EDI seminars since 1994.	Seventeen technical cooperation projects ($16 million) financed by Bank on subjects covering, inter alia, environmentally sustainable industrial development strategies (Madagascar), human resource development (Philippines), privatization (Sudan), industrial rehabilitation and maintenance (Madagascar), iodine deficiency control (Ghana) and managerial training (Russian Federation).	In addition to improved information exchange, four substantive areas have been identified for enhanced future cooperation: (1) privatization and enterprise restructuring; (2) industrial quality management and standards; (3) competitiveness and productivity of small/medium industries; and (4) build-operate-transfer schemes in developing countries.
IAEA	IAEA is active on the issue of safety in nuclear reactors. Bank exchanges information. International Consultative Group on Food Irradiation; FAO/IAEA/WHO fund the joint programme.	World Bank participates in inter-agency joint project decades on databases and methodologies for comparative assessment of different energy sources for electricity generation. This project is coordinating the presentation of a reference book on enhanced electricity system analysis for decision-making.	IAEA Marine Environment Laboratory did a baseline study on the environment quality of a lake through a project funded by GEF in Egypt. IAEA provides technical assistance on environment sampling and sample analysis in the Black Sea Environmental Programme, in close cooperation with GEF.	Greater exchange of information, joint programming missions with the World Bank, as well as country reviews and projects, would improve cooperation. If United Nations-system agencies, based on requests from Member Governments, could gain access to the Bank's Project Development Facility to develop technical assistance requests and prepare projects, this would further the relationship.

a/ Denoted by the acronym BWI.

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OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION

COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES ON A SYSTEM-WIDE BASIS: STRENGTHENING COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM AND THE BRETTON WOODS INSTITUTIONS IN THE AREAS OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AT ALL LEVELS, INCLUDING THE FIELD LEVEL

Note by the Secretariat

Corrigendum

Annex

The information given for ESCWA and ITC should be replaced by the attached.

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Existing arrangements for cooperation

United Nations body	Information/data collection and dissemination	Research policy and analysis	Country-level operational activities	Proposals for strengthened cooperation
ESCWA	The World Bank has contributed financially to the Arabic translation of the new system of national accounts (1993 SNA). ESCWA revised the translation and arranged to put it in a camera-ready typeset for reproduction by United Nations Headquarters. In natural resources development, ESCWA has made contacts with the World Bank for joint activities in the development of water resources in the ESCWA region. A relevant example in this respect is the Commission's proposal to co-sponsor the regional conference on water planned by the World Bank for 1997	In September 1995, the World Bank and ESCWA undertook a study on poverty assessment in Yemen to develop a strategy for poverty reduction. In Industry, ESCWA approached the World Bank to co-sponsor two meetings on "Industrial Strategies and Policies and Managerial and Entrepreneurial Skills, under conditions of Global and Regional Change", held in Bahrain, in November 1995. The World Bank contributed a paper entitled "Privatization: A World Bank Experience" to one of the meetings.	In statistics, ESCWA is currently cooperating with the World Bank in implementing the International Comparison Programme (ICP) in the Western Asia region.	Economic policy coordination, particularly in a regional context, needs proper forum for discussion and exchange of views. SDRs as an integrating link between the United Nations and BWI.
Regional commissions		Regional commissions' cooperation with IMF and the World Bank has centred around specific subjects such as statistical development, improvement in transport, and a limited number of consultations on policy matters.		
ITC	ITC is represented in various World Bank consultative group meetings by the United Nations system resident coordinator and Chiefs and desk officers as well as technical officers meet regularly with World Bank representatives at the country level.		A number of projects implemented and under consideration by Governments using World Bank funds, in particular in the area of international public procurement.	